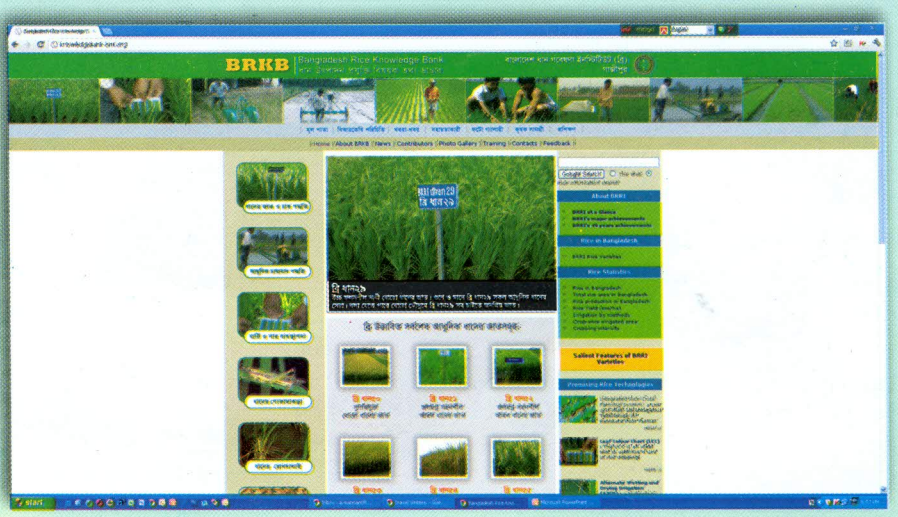
BRKB

An Electronic Knowledge Hub on Rice Production Technology

www.knowledgebank-brri.org



One of the major causes of rice yield gap is knowledge gap of field level agriculture extension agents and farmers. Easy access to rice information is indispensable for improving rice knowledge. This can improve rice production and which eventually narrow the rice yield gap. Now a day knowledge networking using ICT has become fundamental for rice and rice based technology development and quick dissemination of rice information. So, an initiative was taken for the development and utilization of Bangladesh Rice Knowledge Bank (BRKB) using fund of SPGR-NATP, PIU, BARC. It is being implemented by Training Division of BRRI.

Bangladesh Rice Knowledge Bank (BRKB) is an ICT-based electronic repository of rice knowledge. It is an on-line digital library providing all sorts of information on rice and rice based technology to the targeted potential users and beneficiaries and ultimately helps fill the wide rice knowledge gap.

BRKB is a unique dynamic knowledge repository, up-dated regularly and it contains:

- Rice production technology information.
- Technology knowledge beyond rice.
- Rice production training modules.
- Extension-method information.
- Farmers' materials (e.g. posters, folders, videos).

CHARACTERISTICS OF BRKB

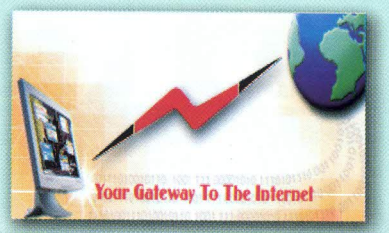
Focused	Materials on–Rice production training and extension
Reliable	Correct information given by the scientists–authentic knowledge
Value-added	Best effort to make it farmers friendly – easy to use
Demand-led	Materials which farmers are looking for

TARGETED BENEFICIARIES/ POTENTIAL USERS OF BRKB

- Farmers, extension and development workers.
- Students, teachers, scientists/ researchers.
- Consultants, economists, policy makers, journalists.
- Fertilizer/seed dealers, general public.

BRKB IS AVAILABLE IN THREE DIFFERENT FORMS

Internet

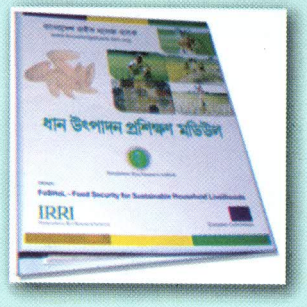


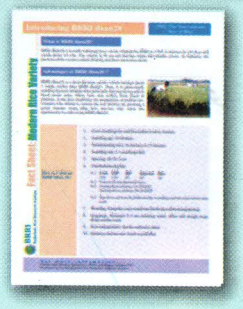
CD





Print

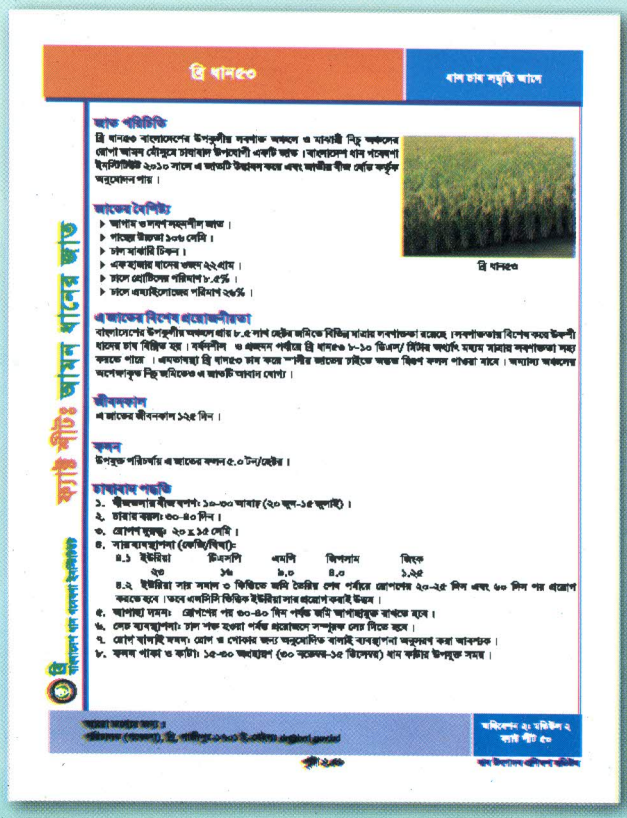




CONTENT OF BRKB

About 165 colorful fact sheets on different rice technologies are available in the BRKB. It also contains photos and video clips on different materials and some publications on rice.

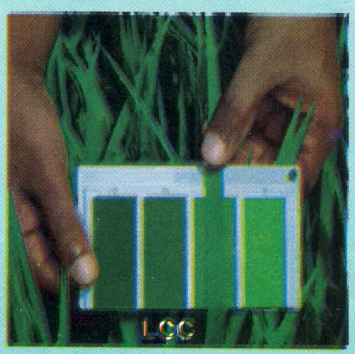
Fact Sheet



Photos



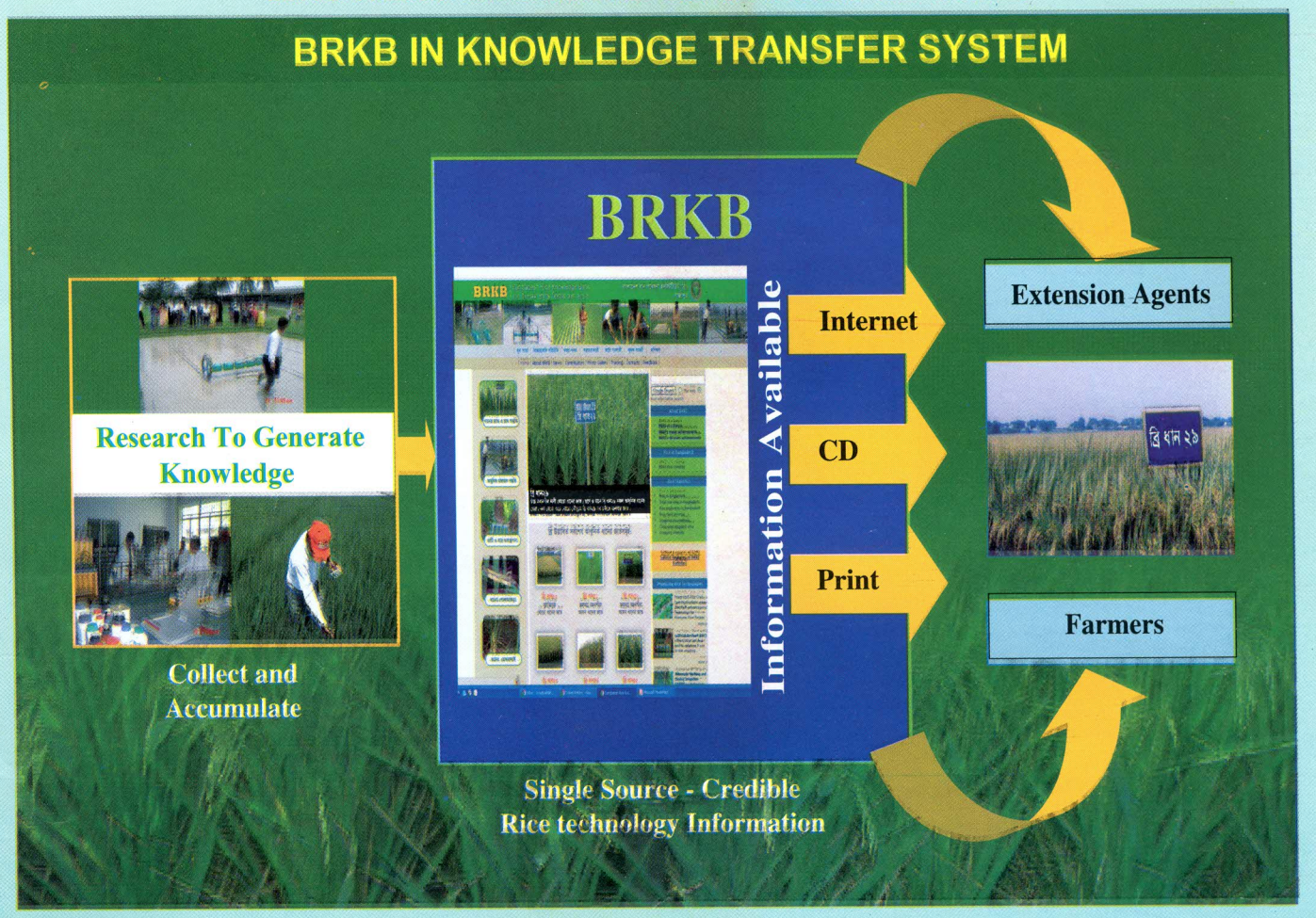




Rice Publications



KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER SYSTEM OF BRKB



DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF BRKB

- BRKB working Group: A multidisciplinary working group of rice scientists are involved in the development of BRKB materials.
- Workshop: Participation of BRRI scientists and extension agents of Go and NGOs.
- Piloting BRKB uses in 15 pilot NATP Upazilas: At Union level in each pilot Upazila where Farmers Information and Advice Center (FIAC) is existing, one BRKB users group is formed. The members of the group are Common Interest Group (CIG) farmers (male/female), extension personnel (DAE, NGOs, private sectors), personnel of UP information & service centers and local public representatives.





- Training courses on BRKB for GO, NGOs and private sector extension personnel have been developed and conducted regularly.
- Distributed 5,000 CD, 3,000 posters and 2,000 stickers and 1,000 bookmarks on BRKB.
- Dissemination of BRKB through Union Information and Service Center (UISC) and Farmers Information and Advice Center (FIAC).
- Use of BRKB by extension agents: Farmers training, capacity building of field level staff and solution of rice related field problems.



FEED BACK MECHANISM OF BRKB

- Field survey using pre-structured questionnaire.
- Need assessment using bib card (at beginning of each training and workshop)
- Meeting with BRKB users' group at union level.
- Workshop with the participation of scientists and extension personnel (GO, NGOs and private sectors).

FEEDBACK REMARKS ON BRKB

Positive comments

- Easy to use and easily accessible.
- Easy to disseminate technology.
- Easily updated, capture and exchanged knowledge.
- Used as both training materials and learning tool.
- It helps retrieving knowledge once forgotten.
- The knowledge captured remains intact.
- One can get the information as demand.
- Farmers solve their problems through multimedia sitting.
- Farmers can refer problems to the centre for solutions.
- Develop a good relationship between farmers, field workers and scientists.

Limitation

- Availability of computer and internet connection is limited.
- Use will be limited as access to computer is limited.
- Irregular and limited electric supply at rural area will hamper its use.
- Farmer are not enough educated to use it.

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Training Division
Bangladesh Rice Research Institute
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Farmgate, Dhaka 1215

For further detail : **Dr. Md. Islam Uddin Mollah**
Head, Training Division & Principal Investigator Development and Utilization of BRKB Training Division, BRRI, Gazipur 1701
Fax : 88-02-9261110, E-mail : miumollah@yahoo.com